

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

FURUMOTO et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: December 5, 2000 Examiner: Unassigned

For: A METHOD OF DE-
SIGNING SEMICON-
DUCTOR CIRCUIT AND
A SEMICONDUCTOR
CIRCUIT DESIGNED
USING THE METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants request that the referenced patent
application be amended as shown below.

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IN THE TITLE

After "DESIGNING" insert --A--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 19, change "of test place" to --, test is made of place, i.e.,
locations--;

line 20, after "overlapping" insert --in--;

line 23, after "and" (first occurrence) insert --the--;

line 24, delete "the";

Page 2, line 1, delete "a" (second occurrence);

change "be adjusted" to --adjust--;

Page 4, line 20, change "constrain" to --constraint--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Amended), line 6, delete "said";

line 7, delete "a";

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line 7, change “tree” to --trees--;

line 9, delete “a”;

line 10, delete “inserted”;

after “gates” insert --inserted--;

line 11, delete “the”;

line 13, delete “the”;

line 14, delete “or not”;

line 15, delete “the”;

line 16, delete “the”.

Claim 4 (Amended), line 2, change “the step of” to --manually--;

delete “a”;

line 3, delete “the”;

delete “inserted”;

line 4, after “gates” insert --inserted--;

delete “regarded as”.

Claim 5 (Amended), line 2, change “the step of” to --manually--;

delete “a”;

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line 3, delete “the”;

delete “inserted”;

line 4, after “gates” insert --inserted--;

delete “regarded as”.

Claim 6 (Amended), line 7, delete “said”;

line 8, delete “a”;

change “tree” to --trees--;

line 10, delete “a”;

line 11, delete “inserted”;

after “gates” insert --inserted--;

line 12, delete “the”;

line 14, delete “the”;

line 15, delete “or not”;

line 16, delete “the”;

line 17, delete “the”.

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IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the existing Abstract of the Disclosure with the appended
Abstract of the Disclosure.

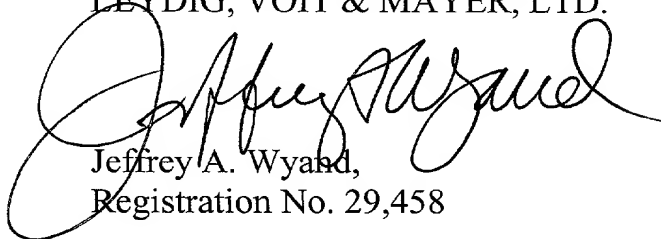
REMARKS

The foregoing changes are made to improve the form of the patent
application. No new matter has been added and entry is respectfully requested.

A favorable Action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a method of designing a semiconductor circuit having clock trees, a netlist is first generated. Then, delay dates are inserted into the netlist. Finally, inserted extra delay gates are deleted so that a timing constraint of the clock trees is satisfied. As a consequence, skew between the clock trees can be easily adjusted.